



Robin Arnold-Williams, Secretary
Washington State Department of Social & Health Services

This state has a good reputation nationally I look forward to getting out and meeting and working with employees across the state.

- Secretary Arnold-Williams • April 7, 2005

Meet Secretary Arnold-Williams

Robin Arnold-Williams, with 25 years of experience in human services, was appointed by Gov. Christine Gregoire as Secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services. She began serving as Secretary on March 15, 2005.

In announcing her appointment, Gov. Gregoire noted that Arnold-Williams brings vast experience to an agency that is tasked with the critical public mission of meeting the health, safety, and self-sufficiency needs of most of the state's most vulnerable children and adults.

"Robin is a national leader in welfare reform and child welfare, and has substantial knowledge about serving seniors and the frail elderly," said Gov. Gregoire.

Arnold-Williams comes to Washington from the state of Utah where she served as the executive director of the state's Department of Human Services from 1997-2005. That department was responsible for child and juvenile services, substance abuse, mental health, aging services, services for people with disabilities, and more. She served in the administration of then-Gov. Mike Leavitt, who is now head of the federal Department of Human and Health Services.

In addition to her work in Utah, Arnold-Williams also served as chair of the National Council of State Human Services Administrators (within the American Public Human Services Association) from 2001-2004. She served as a member of the American Public Human Services Association Board of Trustees from 1999-2004.

Her priorities are children's safety, access to affordable health care, and long-term care. She also holds high expectations for accountability - ensuring DSHS clients receive the most meaningful and effective services possible with increasingly challenging financial resources.

Arnold-Williams holds master's and doctoral degrees in social work and a certificate in gerontology from the University of Utah. She holds a bachelor's degree in social work from Central Michigan University.

***When we look
at who we serve,
it is the logical step
that we continue
service integration.
Many of the people
we serve need
multiple services
from many
different places.***

*- Secretary
Arnold-Williams*

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